MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

6 AUGUST 1986

OPEC

Member-countries of the oil cartel approved an interim plan designed to reduce output to 16 million bbl/day during September and October 1986, according to an OPEC press statement cited by OPECNA. Passage of the measure, which exempts Iraq, does not affect the inter-OPEC discussion concerning new national quotas or the cartel's "appropriate and rightful" production, the statement stressed. The cartel called on non-OPEC countries to contribute sizably in cutting production, and warned that OPEC will not bear alone the burden of defending market stability. While OPEC will continue to seek stability in the oil market, it will also strive to gain a fair market share for itself consistent with the revenue needs of each member-country. However, the Iranian oil minister stressed Iran's opposition to the fair market share strategy in remarks reported by IRNA, asserting that OPEC will be unable to return to this strategy even after the end of the 2-month production cut.

Meanwhile, KUNA reported that a Vienna-based group will be set up to monitor compliance with the agreement. As for output quotas of key Mideast producers, the agency reported that Iran's output will increase from 2.2 million to 2.3 million bbl/day, while Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Libya are scheduled for reductions of 1.347 million, 750,000, and 210,000 bbl/day, respectively. Including Iraq's expected production of approximately 2 million bbl/day, OPEC's total output is scheduled to be 16.8 million bbl/day, the agency continued, down from the current level of 20.57 million bbl/day.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi warplanes hit Khark Island facilities early 5 August, according to a military communique cited by Voice of the Masses radio.

Israel

The presidential pardon for the Shin Bet chief and three other senior officials was upheld by the High Court in a 6 August ruling reported by Jerusalem radio, which noted that the Court rejected the case against the pardons by a majority vote. The Court also decided not to compel the police to investigate the Shin Bet affair, but to go along with the attorney general's recommendation that an investigation be held. A special police team began summoning witnesses in the Shin Bet affair immediately after the ruling, IDF radio revealed.

Regarding relations with Egypt, Jerusalem television reported that "no progress" was made during the latest round of Tabah talks in Cairo, noting that this contradicts U.S. Vice President George Bush's statement that an agreement would be reached within 24 hours. MENA said the "unofficial" Israeli-Egyptian talks focused on "outstanding issues" regarding the arbitration process, but the Egyptian agency did not comment on the results of the meeting. Meanwhile, the Egyptian tourism minister concluded his visit to Israel by signing a joint communique with his Israeli counterpart, Jerusalem radio reported, adding that the two countries have agreed to launch joint promotion campaigns, remove administrative restrictions, open a shipping line between Haifa and Alexandria, and facilitate charter flights between the two countries.

As for the upcoming Israeli-Soviet meeting in Helsinki, Jerusalem radio disclosed that the talks will take place 17 August at the Israeli and Soviet Embassies. The radio also cited Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' view that Israel does not object to Soviet participation in an international conference on the Middle East conflict on condition that the USSR establishes full diplomatic relations with Israel. Nevertheless, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir reaffirmed his opposition to an international conference, "with or without the Soviet Union," during an interview with Jerusalem television.

PLO

Salah Khalaf, Fatah Central Committee member, held talks in Athens with the Greek public order minister, Nicosia radio reported. A government spokesman said Khalaf's trip is in connection with the assassination of a leading PLO member in Athens last June, the radio added. Elsewhere, the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Watan alleged that PLO deputy military commander Khalil* al-Wazir held a "secret meeting" with George Bush 4 August in Cairo, according to KUNA.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 151 *6 August 1986*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Najibullah Addresses Democratic Youth Plenum ..... C 1
Najibullah Presents PDPA Membership Cards ..... C 2
Reaction Reported on Soviet Troop Withdrawal ..... C 2
Army Propaganda Chief Comments ..... C 2
Rebel Group Says 'Of No Significanse' *[Paris LE MONDE 2 Aug]* ..... C 3
Further Reportage on Border Talks in Geneva ..... C 3
Karachi on 'New Set' of Proposals ..... C 3
5 Aug Talks Enter Sensitive Stage *[Karachi]* ..... C 4
'Successful' Operations Reported in Baghlan, Ghowr ..... C 4
UK Missiles to Rebels Termed 'Dangerous Step' ..... C 4
Train Blast Kills Gulbuddin Band Members ..... C 4

INDIA

Lok Sabha Passes Mizoram Statehood Bill ..... E 1
Punjab Requests More Forces To Strengthen Security ..... E 1
Minister Says Pakistan Building Airstrips in Kashmir ..... E 1
Road Construction To Start on Bangladesh Border ..... E 1
Party Leaders Condemn UK Stand on South Africa ..... E 1
32 Killed, 37 Injured in Bihar Train Collision ..... E 1

OTHER COUNTRIES

SRI LANKA

Tamil Groups Refuse To Discuss Government Peace Plan *[AFP]* ..... G 1
Tamil Guerrillas Raid Transport Complex *[AFP]* ..... G 1

IRAN

Cabinet Discusses Domestic, International Issues ..... I 1
Hoseyn Musavi Addresses Rally in Lorestan Province ..... I 1
IRNA Reports Further ..... I 1
Tehran Reports Interview on Visit ..... I 2
Rumors Reported of Possible Coup in Iraq ..... I 3
IRGC Commander on War 'To Be Determined This Year' ..... I 3
UK-Based Opposition Accuses Regime of Terrorist Acts *[KUNA]* ..... I 3
Tehran Commentary on Relations With African Countries ..... I 3
Tehran Comments on OPEC's 'Successful Agreement' ..... I 4
2d Military Training Course for Officials Begins ..... I 4

Najibullah Addresses Democratic Youth Plenum

LD051947 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 5 Aug 86

[Speech by Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, at the 14th Democratic Youth of Afghanistan [DYOA] Central Committee Plenum on 4 August in Kabul — recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear Comrades, young friends. We live in a most difficult and complicated time, a revolutionary time, a time of revolutionary changes in the life of the Afghan people, in the life of our country. The undeclared war, which has been imposed on us by reaction in the region, by imperialism, and by the internal counterrevolution, has become the cause of sacrifices of thousands of human beings. It has diverted our forces and means from their main aim and blunted the process of our economic and social development. We have no choice but to take our people from peaceful constructive work and strengthen our Armed Forces for the struggle against the rebels. The energy with which we carry out this work and the extent to which we quickly crush the counterrevolution and protect the borders of the country will determine the extent and rate at which conditions of peace and tranquility, which are our utmost aspirations, are established.

The 19th PDPA Central Committee Plenum, which was held some time ago, answered some questions which disturb every thinking Afghan today. Despite all of our efforts, why have we not advanced considerably? Why, despite having a (?battery) many times larger than the enemy's have we not succeeded in decisively crushing the counterrevolution? Why have we not succeeded in expanding the popular power in the localities? We believe that the main reason for this is the gap between words and deeds, the lack of revolutionary discipline, the fear of criticism, and the lack of an objective assessment of the tasks that have been accomplished. We have exaggerated our gains to a certain extent. The majority of cadres, particularly the young cadres, spend more energy on praising their gains than on doing practical work. We are dutybound always to tell the truth to the people, the truth, no matter how bitter.

The 19th PDPA Central Committee Plenum outlined the very important tasks in the sphere of maintaining the ideological and organizational aspect of the PDPA, of enhancing the role of every one of the committees of the party organizations and every one of the party members. It is necessary for the Armed Forces to be (?strengthened) comprehensively in order to independently defend the revolution. The state borders with Pakistan and Iran should be protected. The internal counterrevolution should be eliminated. Also, the popular power should be strengthened. Elections to the assemblies should be completed. Members of the State Council should be elected. The implementation of the state plans should be ensured.

However, the implementation of plans is not the only thing in question. So what is in question? It is that the people should, in practice, feel the improvement in their life and the attention paid to them by the party and state. Attention should be paid to every social class and group, to every nationality and tribe. Respect should be held for the sacred religion of Islam — this is our policy. And we will consistently implement this policy.

We have to solve all these questions under conditions of a tense international situation created around Afghanistan. The DRA, along with the Soviet Union and the other friendly countries, are taking measures in order to solve the existing problems. Among the measures in this regard is the step-by-step withdrawal of the limited contingents of Soviet troops from the DRA to their homeland. This will take place in the future and is of particular importance.

Our people and our youth welcomed with profound awareness the statement of Comrade Gorbachev in Vladivostok concerning the fact that for the first time six brigades will return to their homeland by the end of 1986. This step clearly indicates that the Soviet Union is not pursuing any aim in Afghanistan other than extending international assistance in repulsing and rebuffing aggression. The only condition for the complete return of the limited Soviet contingents is the cessation of the undeclared war against Afghanistan.

[Passage omitted] After the victory of the April Revolution a large number of measures have been taken for the growth and development of education and training in the country and for the creation of a system of higher and vocational education. At present there are more than 600,000 students in schools, lycees, and technical professional establishments. Of course we have done very little so far in this regard. However, it should not be forgotten that only a third of school-age children are in education. There are a number of reasons why development in this sphere is stifled. Schools have been destroyed. Teachers and pupils are being subjected to fear and intimidation. The DYOA organizations, however, can carry out a great number of tasks geared to rebuilding destroyed schools, to reviving those schools which are not functioning, and to protecting those schools which are operating. This is one of the most important and specific tasks. [passage omitted]

The youth of Afghanistan should become the bulwark of the 5-year plan. Such is the voice of the people, such is the voice of our party. The first 5-year socioeconomic development plan following the revolution should encourage the economic growth of the democratic youths of Afghanistan. With the implementation of the plan, we will prove the objectivity of our policy and our promises. Let us take as an example the youth brigades: The work of members of such youth brigades, like those who work in the Karkar mines are exceeding their daily plans by 200-300 percent; or in the Gozarga textile concern located in Kabul city; or the oil and gas exploration department in Sheber-ghan. These examples are sources of pleasure. Yesterday I met with such a brigade in the Kabul bakery which left me with positive memories. However, how many such brigades can we bring to mind? If we count them, they are a handful. In reality the number should be much higher. [passage omitted]

In the course of today's plenum, I would like once again to express my gratitude to members of the DYOA, to all the young boys and girls who, by sacrificing their lives, are defending the gains of the April Revolution. The homeland and people are proud of such children. The party and state highly appraise the heroic services of the young generation. Therefore, it is right that the badge of darafsh-e sorkh [red banner]is shining like the sun on the banner of the DYOA.

However, our struggle is continuing and the question of the defense of revolution and armed struggle against its enemies remains a fundamental matter in our work. In this regard we spoke frankly and clearly at the 19th PDPA Central Committee Plenum. In solving these questions, the fundamental role belongs to the youth organization. I believe that the cadres of the DYOA are commissioned to take a position in the front ranks of the volunteers and serve as examples to the youth.

The work which the DYOA is carrying out in connection with its mandate over the border forces, is appreciated. This work has been particularly active since the 13th DYOA Central Committee Plenum. During my visit to the Training Brigade 900, where junior commanders are being trained, I became convinced of the importance of the mandate of the DYOA Central Committee in this brigade. Unfortunately such work is not being carried out everywhere. Most DYOA provincial committees have weak links with the border forces. The time has come for the border battalion or brigade to have a creative (?approach) under the mandate of the DYOA. It would be much better if you (?drafted) the form of such a mandate. I would like to add that everyone — state organs and social organs — should profoundly realize the need to act quickly to protect the borders and give help to the border forces. We can see that the scale of the military and patriotic work of the DYOA is considerable and will increase further in the future. Therefore, it is necessary to pay attention to ways of strengthening this part of the work. In my opinion it would be useful for a secretary of the DYOA Central Committee dealing with military questions to be elected.

Our heroic youth and the DYOA are looked to in the cause of defending the revolution and quickly crushing the rebels. The defense of the homeland is the sacred duty of every Afghan youth and of every member of the DYOA. All energy should be directed to the elimination of the enemy and to the quick establishment of peace in our homeland.

The DYOA has 200,000 members. This is good. Can every one of these members say that they are active political strugglers and the bulwark of the DYOA and the PDPA? I belive that this is not yet so, because first of all the youth committees have not moblized the people toward joint struggle and joint work. The DYOA charter correctly states that the basic bulwark of the DYOA is the primary organizations. Thus, let us lay our foundation like a builder lays the foundation of a building. [passage omitted]

Najibullah Presents PDPA Membership Cards

LD052152 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 Aug 86

[Text] This afternoon in the Storey Palace of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, PDPA membership cards were presented to a number of PDPA members and former members of the Revolutionary Society of Afghanistan's Toilers.

At the start of this ceremony Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, spoke briefly about the need to organize all real patriots and genuine revolutionaries around the PDPA — the vangard of the working class and all toilers of Afghanistan — for the struggle against imperialism and reaction which has imposed an undeclared and imperialist war on our country's toiling people, and he expressed delight for the unity of the Revolutionary Society of Afghanistan's Toilers with the PDPA.

In part of his talk Comrade Najibullah said: The bosom of the PDPA as a kind and compassionate mother, is always open in sincerety before its fighting, devout, and heroic sons and welcomes such sons.

At the end of his talk Comrade Najibullah congratulated the new members of the party for being honored by receiving PDPA membership cards, and he asked them to use all their knowledge, learning, conscience, ability, and energy to serve the toiling people of Afghanistan and for the construction of their beloved country.

The party membership cards were then presented by Comrade Najibullah and Comrade Nur Ahmad Nur, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports that at the end of this ceremony Comrade (Zahir Ufoq), member of the PDPA Central Committee, on behalf of those taking part in the session, expressed the honesty and faithfulness of their cofighter comrades to the lofty, progressive, and humane objectives of the PDPA. He emphasized the need for the peoples masses to be organized for the effective defense of the gains of the national and democratic April Revolution and its revolutionary and humane aspirations regarding the reaction and international imperialism — headed by U.S. imperialism and its aggressive allies — Chinese hegemonism, reaction in the region, and the enemies of the April Revolution in general. On behalf of all of his comrades who have joined the PDPA, he said that they will continue their relentless struggle in the united trench of the PDPA, under the leadership of the Central Committee and its Politburo, as a single body for a durable nationwide peace, further victories of the April Revolution, and the realization of the PDPA's objectives against the counterrevolutionaries' forces, reaction, and international imperialism.

Reaction Reported on Soviet Troop Withdrawal

Army Propaganda Chief Comments

LD060600 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0509 GMT 6 Aug 86

[Text] Kabul, August 5, BAKHTAR: The decrease and partial return of the limited contingents of the USSR from the DRA to their country being carried out on the mutual agreement of the two countries, is considered an important step for the solution of the situation around Afghanistan and decrease of tension in the region, said Major General Mohammad Akram, chief of the propaganda and publicity section of the Political Department of the Armed Forces of the DRA to a BAKHTAR reporter.

He added that the Government of Afghanistan has always striven that the situation around Afghanistan be solved through peaceful means. On the contrary, the reactionary countries, in particular,

the United States always strives to create obstacles vis-a-vis the solution of the situation.

The recent steps taken by the DRA and the USSR, once again prove that the two countries truly want the solution of the situation around Afghanistan. Now it depends upon the opposite side to show positive response on the question. It is because, the undeclared war was unleashed against Afthanistan by Pakistan and its imperialist patrons, General Mohammad Akram said.

The personnel of the Armed Forces of the DRA are profoundly obliged to the personnel of the limited contingents of the USSR, who have fought side by side with the Afghan servicemen for the defence of the frontiers of the country and its territorial integrity. The people of Afghanistan will always recall the internationalist assistance of the Soviet servicemen, who rushed to their assistance at the most arduous moments of the history of the country, General Mohammad Akram concluded.

Rebel Group Says 'Of No Significance'

PM041551 Paris LE MONDE in French 2 Aug 86 p 3

[Article by (Homayoun Tandar) representative in France of the Afghan Jamiyat-e Eslami: "Moscow's Initiative Will Not Stop the Diplomatic Rise of the Resistance"]

[Text] The Kremlin is recalling six regiments based in Afghanistan. First, let us note that this decision is of no military significance. A withdrawal of 6,000 men from an occupation contingent which numbers 150,000 is obviously derisory. It is anything but a disengagement. Indeed, the Soviets are doing this to disguise an entirely different development. They are in fact gradually replacing conscripts by professional soldiers capable of carrying out commando operations. This is the only way in which they can challenge the Resistance for control of virtually the whole country. Far from reducing its military involvement in Afghanistan, the USSR is stepping up its pressure each day, and the world cannot really be taken in by this.

But Mr Gorbachev is anxious to give this minor event political significance, and it is in this context that the news should be examined. Negotiations on the so-called withdrawal of Soviet troops have resumed in Geneva just before the UN General Assembly debates the Afghan question. In these circumstances the USSR is forced to occupy the political stage.

These negotiations are going to enter their seventh "prolonged" phase. This description alone is enough to reflect the absence of practical results. There is a complete deadlock in the situation. The USSR is demanding as a precondition to any negotiations on the fundamental issue, Pakistan's recognition of the Kabul puppet regime. However, Pakistan is taking every opportunity to reaffirm that this demand is as absurd as it is unacceptable and that it shows the absence of any Soviet desire to really settle the conflict by political means.

So far the Soviets have been anxious to continue these fruitless negotiations. They thought this was a way of gradually giving some credibility to the Kabul regime and limiting the effects of the condemnation they prompted by invading Afghanistan. But their lack of movement on the diplomatic scene is now providing a dangerous contrast for them with the Resistance's continued political progress.

In 7 years the USSR has failed to provide any base for the Kabul regime, which exercises virtually none of the usual functions of a state. On the other hand, all the parties representing the Resistance formed an alliance in March 1985 which has become the Afghan people's only legitimate political expression. On the basis of this unity, which is being constantly consolidated in the field, Professor Rabbani was able to visit Washington, Paris, and Riyadh last June in his capacity as alliance spokesman. The success he encountered in each of these capitals and many other signs of support (particularly the recent vote by the European Parliament and the French Government's stances) show that the Resistance's rise in diplomatic circles has reached the point of no return.

The Soviets have been caught in their own trap. They claim they are ready to negotiate. They have been trying to change their image since Mr Gorbachev came to power. They are therefore doomed to find a political solution in Afghanistan. Mr Gorbachev has been misinformed by his cumbersome administrative machine. By drawing attention to this tiny troop withdrawal, he has probably acted like a loser, like somebody who shows his hand and reveals his weakness. The diplomatic field is now mined for the USSR. Mr Gorbachev was wrong to approach it hastily; he will find that the Resistance is a necessary interlocutor.

Further Reportage on Border Talks in Geneva

Karachi on 'New Set' of Proposals

BK021722 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 2 Aug 86

[Text] The UN secretary general's personal representative, Mr Diego Cordovez, is to present a new set of formulations to break the deadlock on the vital question on withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan when the proximity talks between Pakistan and Kabul regime in Geneva are reconvened on Monday.

Mr Cordovez informed the two sides of his intention to adopt a fresh approach to overcome the central obstacle to a comprehensive settlement on the future of Afghanistan after intensive discussions which lasted till late last night. A spokesman of the Pakistan delegation expressed the hope that discussions would move from general to the specifics on the basis of Cordovez's proposal.

According to informed sources in Geneva, Mr Cordovez would now propose that the two paragraphs in the fourth instrument relating to the timeframe for the withdrawal of Soviet troops and to the question of verification and monitoring of the implementation of the agreement should be taken up simultaneously rather than separately.

The sources add that Pakistan which has demonstrated constructive attitude throughout the 4-years talk has already assured Mr Cordovez that it would adopt a positive and flexible approach to any new formulation which would ensure a forward movement.

5 Aug Talks Enter Sensitive Stage

BK051729 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 5 Aug 86

[Text] The indirect talks on Afghanistan continued in Geneva today. The UN secretary general's personal representative on Afghanistan, Mr Diego Cordovez, had an hour-long exclusive meeting this morning with the Pakistan foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan. Later, he held a similar meeting with the foreign minister of the Kabul regime, Mr Shah Mohammad Dost. Mr Cordovez also held meetings with the full delegations of the two sides afterward.

According to *Associated Press of Pakistan*, the talks have entered an extremely sensitive stage. The agency says although there has been no indication from either side or from the UN as to the details, it is generally assumed that the negotiations are now centered round the crucial question of monitoring of the proposed agreement and the timeframe for withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. Some minor issues, including the one relating to the procedure for consulting representatives of Afghan refugees, were also reportedly discussed today.

The agency, quoting informed sources, said it was expected to be known by tomorrow whether the current round of negotiations was to be conclusive or more talks would be needed to facilitate an agreement.

'Successful' Operations Reported in Baghlan, Ghowr

LD051656 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 Aug 86

[Text] The country's heroic Armed Forces by inflicting crushing blows on the counterrevolutionaries are clearing the country's villages and hamlets of their filthy existence.

According to a BAKHTAR report, successful combat operations were carried out in the environs of Baghlan Province which as a result a number of murderers — belonging to the band of Golboddin including Abdol Khaleq, the ringleader of this group — were crushed and a large number of weapons and ammunition were seized by our Armed Forces; these consisted of 50 surface-to-surface missiles, 200 rocket launcher shells, 3 mortars, 2 DShKS, 15 various weapons with 100 boxes of ammunition, and antigovernment leaflets proving the band's links with foreign [countries].

Moreover, as a result of successful operations carried out in the surroundings of Ghowr Province by the Armed Forces, a number of the traitor elements to the homeland and revolution were crushed and a large quantity of ammunition and weapons were seized by the country's security forces.

UK Missiles to Rebels Termed 'Dangerous Step'

LD060604 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 6 Aug 86

[Text] Kabul, August 5, BAKHTAR: The decision of the British Goavernment to supply the counter-revolutionary gangs with anti-aircraft missiles is another dangerous step in expanding the undeclared war against the DRA.

Following the foot prints of U.S. imperialism, the British Conservative Government has decided to supply the Afghan counter-revolutionary bandits with portable anti-aircraft missiles.

These missiles are in addition to the 'Stinger' missiles provided by the United States recently through Pakistan.

The Pakistani newspaper *Jang* reported in this connection that the destructive power of British missiles is higher than the U.S. ones.

The decision to supply the Afghan counter-revolutionaries with sophisticated British weapons was taken following the trip of Sir Geoffrey Howe, British foreign secretary to Pakistan a few months back. During his stay in that country, he took several provocative steps and made hostile remarks against the DRA. He also visited the counter-revolutionary camps and promised further aid to the bandits.

An anti-aircraft missile launched by an U.S. mercenary bandit had shot down last year a civilian aircraft of Bakhtar Afghan Airlines killing 52 including 49 passengers.

The peace loving people of the DRA, resolutely condemn such flagrant intervention as violation of the accepted international norms.

Train Blast Kills Gulbuddin Band Members

LD060549 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0421 GMT 6 Aug 86

[Text] Kabul, August 5, BAKHTAR: Three persons were killed and two others were seriously injured as a result of a bomb explosion planted inside a passenger train moving from Chaman Hozuri to (Quetta), reports reaching here says.

Two Afghan bandits connected with Gulbuddin band were among the deaths. The bomb was planted by the rival counter-revolutionary bandits. It is said that a number of Gulbuddin's accomplices were on the train.

The train was completely burnt.

Lok Sabha Passes Mizoram Statehood Bill

BK051628 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 5 Aug 86

[Text] The Lok Sabha has approved the bill seeking to confer statehood on Mizoram to make it the union's 23d state. The House also passed the Constitution 53d amendment bill making special provisions for the new state. This is to ensure constitutional protection to the social customs and laws of the tribal people. While the statehood bill was adopted by voice vote, the Constitution amendment bill was carried by division with 308 members voting in favor and 2 against.

Replying to a simultaneous debate on the two bills, the home minister, Mr Buta Singh, said the Mizo accord is unique and it will be implemented within the stipulated timeframe. Describing the accord as a happy augury, he said the prime minister's political wisdom and statesmanship has been instrumental in bringing about the settlement. Noting the full support the two bills received in the House from almost all sections, he said the measure is a progressive and unifying action of the government in the interest of the people of Mizoram. It is a victory for the Gandhian ideology and nonviolence and peace.

Dispelling some members' doubts on Mr Laldenga's claim for greater Mizoram, Mr Buta Singh said this has been clearly spelt out in the accord as well as in the bills, and there is no question of extending the boundary of the Union Territory. He said the government trusted the MNF [Mizo National Front] and Mr Laldenga and took a step forward and the accord is a test of mutual trust.

On the rehabilitation measures of the MNF personnel, he said 534 personnel have come overground voluntarily under the accord besides 154 family members. Mr Buta Singh also remembered all those security forces people who laid down their lives in Mizoram for preserving the unity and integrity of the nation.

During the discussion, the members welcomed the Mizo accord which, they said, will end an unhappy chapter in the history of Mizoram and usher in an era of peace and prosperity. Some members expressed reservation about the MNF leader, Mr Laldenga, who they said had gone back on his words many times in the past. Other members expressed the view that his bonafides should not be doubted at this stage. There were also differences about provisions regarding protection of tribal customary law and ownership of land. The members also asked the government to take serious efforts for the economic development of Mizoram and to protect the cultural identity of the people.

Punjab Requests More Forces To Strengthen Security

BK060318 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 6 aug 86

[Text] The Punjab government has requested the center to provide 60 additional companies of paramilitary forces. An official spokesman told All India Radio Chandigarh correspondent this additional force is required for further strengthening the security arrangements in Ferozepore, Faridkot, Jullundur, and Kapurthala Districts. He said the sector scheme of intensified deployment and patrolling by police and paramilitary forces is being strengthened in these areas.

Minister Says Pakistan Building Airstrips in Kashmir

BK060859 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 6 Aug 86

[Text] The minister of state for defense, Mr Arun Singh, has said that Pakistan is building three new airstrips with powerful radar system in Pakistan occupied Kashmir. In a written answer in the Lok Sabha today, he said these airstrips are located at Muzaffarabad, Rawala Kot, and Mirpur. He said the distrance of these airstrips from the line of actual control ranges from 30 to 40 km.

Road Construction To Start on Bangladesh Border

BK060912 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 6 Aug 86

[Text] The center has decided to take up the construction of border road all along the Indo-Bangladesh border. This was stated in the Lok Sabha today by the home minister, Mr Buta Singh, in a written reply. He said instructions have been issued for taking up the survey work on Assam-Bangladesh border on priority basis. Mr Buta also said that steps have been taken to augment vigilance on the border to prevent infiltration.

Party Leaders Condemn UK Stand on South Africa

BK060322 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 6 Aug 86

[Text] The British attitude [at the Commonwealth summit in London] has been sharply criticized by the opposition as well as the Congress-I MP's. The former external affairs minister and BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] leader, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, demanded convening of a full meeting of the Commonwealth. The Telugu Desam leader, Mr P. Upendra, said the time has now come for India and other like minded nations to initiate actions for expulsion of Britain from the Commonwealth. The Janata Party leader, Mr Madhu Dandavate, called for applying total sanctions against the racist regime even if they cause suffering to some countries. The CPI general secretary, Mr C. Rajeshwar Rao, said his party fully supported the proposal by other six nations to impose new sanctions. The CPI-M Politburo member, Mr Basawa Punniah, while welcoming the stand against Britain. [sentence as received] Mr Baliram Bhagat of Congress-I has called for building public opinion to pressurize Mrs Thatcher to fall in line with the six participants in the London summit.

32 Killed, 37 Injured in Bihar Train Collision

BK060918 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 6 Aug 86

[Text] Thirty two persons were killed and 37 others injured in a train collision in Bihar early this morning. The condition of 19 is stated to be serious. Making (?suo loco) statement in the Rajya Sabha, the transport minister, Mrs Mohsina Kidwai, said that the accident occurred between 152 down Amritsar-Tata Express

and a goods train between (Garwaroj) and (Tondla) stations in the Dhanbad division. The engine and the first two coaches of the express train crashed and fell into the Koel River. Next three coaches were also damaged. Two empty wagons of the goods train also fell off the bridge.

The minister said the injured had been rushed to Daltonganj and Garwa town civil hospitals. Senior railway officials have rushed to the spot. The commissioner of railway safety eastern circle is to hold an inquiry into the accident.

The transport minister, Mrs Kidwai, after making a statement in the House also rushed to the site. A similar statement was made by the minister of state for surface transport, Mr Rajesh Pilot, in the Lok Sabha today.

UNI *[United News of India]*, however, puts the death toll at around 100.

SRI LANKA

Tamil Groups Refuse To Discuss Government Peace Plan

BK051540 Hong Kong AFP in English 1529 GMT 5 Aug 86

[Text] Madras, India, Aud 5 (AFP) — Three militant Tamil groups have refused to discuss Colombo's latest peace proposals, saying they do not go far enough to meet separatist demands, Tamil sources said Tuesday.

The Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF), the Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students (EROS), and the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO) felt the proposals fell far short of their demands, the sources said.

The moderate Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), which spent 10 days last month talking with President Junius Jayewardene's government, is trying to get the militants involved in an eventual peace agreement.

Talks are due to resume August 16 between the TULF and the government, which is offering limited autonomy to Sri Lanka's Tamil minority through elected provincial councils.

Most militants have rejected Colombo's proposals because they do not take into account four basic demands:

— recognition of the Tamils' desired right to a separate homeland;
— acceptance of Tamils as a separate nationality;
— a right to self-determination;
— civic rights to stateless Tamils of recent Indian origin.

The largest of the myriad of Tamil militant groups, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), has done a u-turn and exchanged views on the proposals with TULF.

The sources said the LTTE — apparently under pressure from the Indian Government — told the TULF it would not oppose the resumption of the peace talks in Colombo.

They also said the chief minister of India's southern Tamil Nadu State, M.G. Ramachandran, had cut financial aid to the LTTE to force the group to adopt a softer line.

The LTTE, starved for funds, sent an sos to its followers in Sri Lanka last week to raise funds for its "day-to-day operations," the sources said. Last week's ransom kidnapping of eight prominent Tamils was a desperate measure by the group to raise money, the sources added.

Meanwhile, the TULF Politburo met in Madras Sunday night to discuss the possibility of expanding its negotiating team in Colombo, sources said.

TULF Secretary-General Appapillai Amirthalingam also briefed Politburo members on three days of talks he had last week with the Indian Government in New Delhi, they said.

The TULF had stuck to its demand for a single linguistic unit for the Tamils in Sri Lanka's northern and eastern provinces, the sources said. The Indian Government was understood to have told TULF to drop the demand if Mr Jayewardene was "dead-set" against it.

Tamil Guerrillas Raid Transport Complex

BK061020 Hong Kong AFP in English 1018 GMT 6 Aug 86

[Text] Colombo, Aug 6 (AFP) — Tamil guerrillas blew up boats, torched vehicles, and seized firearms in an attack on a transport complex in the eastern Sri Lankan city of Trincomalee on Wednesday, sources in the Security Forces said here.

More than 30 Tamil separatists raided the State Port Authority complex at Mud Cove on the city waterfront, the sources said.

Sources in the port authority said there had been no casualties.

The Security Forces sources said the attackers had overpowered guards and captured their weapons.

They set fire to two buses, three lorries, and a minibus and blew up a passenger launch, a tug, and two heavy-duty boats, all of which belonged to the port authority, the sources said.

The port authority sources said it would take quite some time to put the transport complex back in business.

Guerrillas from Sri Lanka's Tamil minority are fighting for a separate state in the largely Tamil north and east of Sri Lanka.

Meanwhile, Security Forces sources said a school principal kidnapped on Thursday from Chenkaladi, in the eastern district of Batticaloa, had been found shot dead near the Batticaloa residence of Sri Lankan Home Minister K.W. Devanayagam.

The victim, P. Sivalingam, a school principal and social worker, was among eight people abducted by Tamil militants for organising a series of public ceremonies in Chenkaladi, which were attended by the home minister.

Among the others kidnapped were an assistant director of agriculture and a prominent businessman. Sources said nothing was known about their fate.

Newspaper reports earlier said that the militants had sent notes to the families of those kidnapped, including Mr Sivalingam's, demanding large ransoms.

(Tamil sources in Madras in southern India have said the kidnappings are the work of the biggest Tamil miltant group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.)

(They said the guerrilla group, based in Madras, was starved of cash and had staged the abductions in a desperate attempt to raise funds.)

Cabinet Discusses Domestic, International Issues

LD061103 Tehran IRNA in English 1027 GMT 6 Aug 86

[Text] Tehran, Aug 6, IRNA — The Cabinet ministers in their Wednesday session, chaired by Prime Minister Huseyn Musavi, reviewed latest domestic and international developments. They also discussed issues relevant to the OPEC meeting including the accepted proposals of Iranian oil ministers which set OPEC production ceiling at [figure indistinct] for the next two months.

The meeting approved allocation of 31 million rials (about 400,000 dollars) to increase budget of Pasteur Medical and Research Institute this year.

Hoseyn Musavi Addresses Rally in Lorestan Province

LD051849 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Aug 86

[Text] Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi arrived in Khorramabad this morning to visit Lorestan Province and meet the people there; he was welcomed by local officials. On his arrival the prime minister inspected model units of the Armed Forces stationed on the battlefield. Then in an interview given to a Central News Unit correspondent, Mr Musavi described the purpose behind his visit to Lorestan Province: to study the difficulties and appraise the existing solutions. While referring to the province's capabilities as being extremely important, he expressed appreciation for the all-round support of the people of Lorestan Province in the various stages of the Islamic Revolution.

Continuing his trip the prime minister arrived in and visited Borujerd amid a warm welcome from the local people. Then, speaking to a rally attended by the people of Borujerd and extolling the self-sacrifices made by the people of Lorestan Province Mr Musavi said: If the heroic city of Borujerd is standing up to enemy attacks, this steadfastness is on behalf of all the world's deprived and meek in the face of bullies. Lorestan Province is one wherein love for and faith in Islam have been cemented; with the morale of its population and with the presence of such people it is axiomatic that the plots hatched by the enemies of our Islamic Revolution will be nullified.

Continuing his speech, expounding the hegemonistic methods adopted by the powers and the resistance put up by the Islamic Revolution in the face of all such plots and the world arrogance's incorrect appraisal of the morale and beliefs of our country's people, and referring to the economic and regional potential of Lorestan Province and the creativities and initiatives shown by the people of that province, the prime minister said: By utilizing the existing capabilities we can reconstruct our country and speed up the economic movement toward independence and we will undoubtedly turn the new conditions into a launching pad for achieving economic independence.

Referring to Saddam's open letter to the leaders of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the prime minister attributed it to the weakness of the military forces of the Baghdad regime in the face of the revolutionary fury of Islam's combatants and said: Saddam, who on behalf of the powers subjected our soil to attack and aggression, has once again issued threats thinking that by such threats he can undermine the will of our heroic nation. To him and to all his supporters we say: As long as Islam is present in our society, as long as our people ardently support their leader, and as long as the spirit of seeking independence is prevalent among our people you will not be able to create the smallest weakness in our will!

The prime minister added: Today the United States considers Islamic countries to be part of its vital interests and it would be appropriate to ask the United States what the nature of U.S. interests in Mecca and Medina are? And it is quite clear that imposing the war on us was aimed at safeguarding U.S. interests in the region.

In another part of his speech, speaking about the government's political and economic course, the prime minister said: Our plans are aimed toward economic independence and in such a situation we need assistance from all people; and in view of the groundwork prepared, the country's manpower resources and existing capital should do their utmost to step up the power of this revolution! Today production should be considered as a religious task and in the areas of agriculture, stockbreeding, and industry one should utilize all the existing possibilities!

Continuing his visit to Lorestan Province in Do Rud District near Borujerd, Mr Musavi went among the tribesmen of one of the Borujerd tribes, known as the Karabaneh tribe, and entered a marquee wherein he engaged in conversation with the tribesmen.

The prime minister then left for Do Rud District and on his way stopped by the graves of the workers who were martyred by the barbarous bombing of the Drud factory by Iraqi aircraft and on reading the Koranic exordium paid homage to the memory of these cofighters in the trenches of the monotheistic fronts.

The prime minister then arrived in Do Rud District and attended a rally of the district people held in the open air prayer site and in a speech, referring to the bombing of the Do Rud cement works, described that deed as demonstrating the bestial nature of the Baghdad regime and recounted the reasons for the onslaughts launched by the enemies of the Islamic Revolution on the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran; he then described the political, economic, cultural, and military dimensions of such plots.

The prime minister then returned to Khorramabad and attended a rally of the people of that city in Khorramabad's open air prayer site this afternoon and in a speech expounded the problems of the war, the government's political course, and the government's policy regarding Lorestan Province.

IRNA Reports Further

LD051930 Tehran IRNA in English 1755 GMT 5 Aug 86

[Text] Khorramabad, Lorestan Prov., Aug 5, IRNA -- Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi said here Tuesday that Iraq's recent raids on Iranian cities have merely served to enhance the people's spirit of resistance.

Musavi said that no criminal actions were capable of preventing the Iranian people from continuing their defensive war. "We will continue the war until the punishment of the aggressor, "Musavi said.

The prime minister made the remarks in a speech to a group of people in Borujerd, Lorestan Province.

Iraqi bombardment of Iranian cities were a response to fatal blows suffered by its forces at the war fronts, said Musavi. "Such crimes will not have the least effect on the Iranian people's spirit of resistance."

Musavi added that Muslim forces of Iran who have dealt severe blows on Iraqi troops in Mehran, Al-Faw, and other fronts would not allow the Iraqi forces to continue its barbaric attacks on the Iranian nation.

On Iran's economic situation, the premier said "we will resist all imperialist powers and thwart their conspiracies by relying on our people, innovation, and natural resources."

The prime minister said that enemies of the Islamic Republic of Iran thought in vain that they could prevent the Islamic government from pursuing its revolutionary ideals by forcing oil prices down to rock-bottom prices. Iran is taking advantage of the present economic situation caused by the falling oil prices as a jumping board to attain self-sufficiency, he said.

On Iraqi ruler Saddam Husayn's recent so-called peace overtures, Musavi said that this insane person (Saddam Husayn) occasionally makes such statements in order to overshadow the defeats suffered by Iraqi forces at the fronts. The Iraqi ruler who imposed the war on Iran on behalf of the neocolonialists is still not able to fathom the depth of the Iranian nation's faith, the prime minister said.

Tehran Reports Interview on Visit

LD052312 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 5 Aug 86

[Interview with Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi by unidentified station correspondent in Do Rud on 5 August — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Mr Musavi, during your visit to Lorestan Province today you have graciously come to the Do Rud area and we are now at the graveside of the martyrs who fell as a result of the barbarous bombing carried out by Iraqi aircraft on the Do Rud cement plant. Could you please give us your analysis of this move by the Iraqi regime, and what other places in Lorestan Province will you be visiting?

[Musavi] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Of course the raid on the Do Rud cement plant, which is in the center of the city of Do Rud, only constitutes a fraction of the crimes perpetrated by the Saddam regime against our Islamic Revolution; and these, as it were, barbarous operations are being carried out by the Saddam regime against our country at a time when it has sustained violent blows on the fronts. Following the Mehran operations, which caused the Saddam regime extensive disgrace within Iraq and throughout the world, these air raids are aimed at overshadowing reports, not unlike the medals which he awarded his commanders during their flight to conceal their defeats, as it were; and now he too is also resorting to similar propaganda. At any rate, even on the strength of this erroneous analysis, he is hoping that the problem will become stabilized and that through certain moves he might be able to create some sort of flexibility and compromise within us. Well, it has already been shown that such analyses have been incorrect and in this situation whereby the Islamic Revolution is on the threshold of great victories and is stronger and more coordianted than ever before, naturally such raids will have no effect other than to make our people even more coordinated. [passage omitted]

The more one comes to these parts and the more one meets the people, the stronger one's morale becomes, and the greater becomes one's power to go out and do more work. On the other hand, getting to know the area at close quarters reveals the existence of vast manpower and natural resources which could be utilized even further as a result of government investments and serious work, God willing.

[Question] This morning you also visited a tribal area and in view of the potential which our tribes possess in the area of expanding stockbreeding, I would like to know what are the government's plans for utilizing this potential?

[Musavi] Of course, just as the imam has graciously said, and has repeated the same, the tribes constitute our country's resources. Indeed they constitute our country's resources. They are ardent, warrior people who believe in Islam, follow the imam in the true sense of the word from the bottom of their hearts. When one observes these people's love for Islam and the clergy, one realizes that this is something which is second nature to them, which has been cemented in the life and history of these dear people. Where we landed we noticed from above a number of tents and so we said we would pay a humble visit to these dear people. So when we entered we asked the brother who was in the tent: Well, what do you have? He answered: We have 500 sheep! We observed that the situation of the tribes is good, praise be to God, and God has been kind this year and there has been ample rain and the pastures are good here this year. Anyhow, as you kindly asked about the plans which the government has with regard to the tribes, I would like to say, that the task of serving the tribes is now largely entrusted to the Reconstruction Jihad in accordance with the law and in connection with stockbreeding. We attach tremendous importance to the tribes form the economic standpoint for the production of the country's meat and for its move toward self-sufficiency. It appears that we are candidly — of course the government is currently discussing this and we are debating these new circumstances — not in such a strong position with regard to greater utilization of the so-called extension industries [as heard] pertaining to dairy produce and such things, to collecting milk or to the use of such capabilities, and to sheep shearing throughout the country. But now that we are facing appreciable pressure from the standpoint of oil revenues and indeed now that we have returned to more radical policies pertaining to economic problems it is appropriate that this problem should have more attention paid to it. [passage omitted]

Rumors Reported of Possible Coup in Iraq

LD060859 Tehran IRNA in English 0854 GMT 6 Aug 86

[Text] Tehran, Aug 6, IRNA — An Arab diplomat in Tehran received a report from his country Tuesday night on a possible coup d'etat in Iraq but he said he had no information either the coup had been successful or failed.

Meanwhile, the Lebanese daily *Al-Sharq* wrote in its Wednesday issue quoting French news sources that media in Paris are on alert to file latest developments in Iraq despite the fact that communication between Baghdad and the outside world is disconnected.

The paper added that although no details were available, there are rumours on a possible coup in Iraq.

IRGC Commander on War 'To Be Determined This Year'

LD061217 Tehran IRNA in English 0743 GMT 6 Aug 86

[Text] Semnan, Aug 6, IRNA — Commander of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Mohsen Reza'i said here Tuesday that the destiny of Iraqi imposed war would be determined this year. Speaking to a group of Semnan people, he said "we should be watchful and not let the enemy reorganise itself."

Referring to the necessity of people's readiness and continuation of their aid to war fronts, the IRGC commander said that the enemy had become weak and should be chased until its last breath. To this end, he stressed, more forces were needed.

Reza'i added that superpowers imagined if a regional force attacked Iran, the Iranian nation would surrender immediately. But, he said, they defended the Islamic Revolution and continued the war powerfully.

UK-Based Opposition Accuses Regime of Terrorist Acts

LD061409 Kuwait KUNA in English 1324 GMT 6 Aug 86

[Text] London, Aug 6 (KUNA) — A leading Iranian opposition group has accused the Khomeyni regime of resorting to terrorist activities including the detonation of bombs in public places "to undermine the nationwide resistance".

In a statement released in London Wednesday, the People's Mojahedin of Iran said that "the Iranian regime used such terrorist acts inside the country as a propaganda" against the growing opposition by the masses there.

The group condemned the bomb blast in Tehran yesterday which reportedly killed one person and damaged two vehicles.

On numerous occasions the Iranian leadership used such measures to "tarnish the image of the just resistance of the Iranian people for peace and freedom", it added.

Tehran Commentary on Relations With African Countries

NC061215 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 6 Aug 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Mr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, our country's foreign minister, is leading a delegation on a tour of eight African countries. He has arrived in the Zimbabwean capital of Harare at the end of a 4-day visit to Tanzania and Gabon. The Iranian delegation has embarked on this trip with the objective of exchanging ideas with the heads of African states and of establishing coordination with them prior to the upcoming nonaligned summit. The delegation is also scheduled to visit Benin, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, and Nigeria.

The delegation began its tour on Friday. The foreign minister has met and talked with the presidents, prime ministers, and foreign ministers of Tanzania and Gabon during his visits to these countries and conveyed messages to them from our country's leaders.

Taking place as it does on the eve of the nonaligned summit, this trip underlines yet again the Islamic Republic's need to consolidate its relations with Third World countries, especially those in Africa. It also emphasizes the need for close cooperation among these countries during this upcoming summit.

After the victorious Islamic Revolution, the Islamic Republic of Iran severed its relations with certain African countries such as South Africa, Egypt, and Morocco. Yet it has continued to strengthen its bonds with the Muslim and (?Christian) countries of this continent. Based on this policy, 12 of its 17 new diplomatic representations are in Africa. Iran now has 26 embassies on this continent. In accordance with this policy and that adopted by our country with regard to the Nonaligned Movement, delegations from the Islamic Republic have continued to pay visits to African countries. [passage omitted] Such trips exemplify the policy implemented by the Islamic Republic of Iran in pursuance of the basic principles of its foreign policy. Our government's general stand in the world is clear. It consists of support for the deprived and oppressed in any part of the world. Since Africa has a special place among the world's deprived areas, our country's officials have emphasized the need to strengthen relations with the countries of this continent.

With debts totaling more than $170 billion and a population greater than 553 million, today Africa is faced with problems which, if they are to be solved, need assistance from progressive and justice-seeking countries. For decades the West has plundered Africa's valuable reserves, including its gold, cacao, diamonds, hemp, and other important strategic products. This plundering continues to take place today in a new form. The West is aggravating the bondage of the deprived African people to an even greater extent by allocating insignificant amounts for assistance and confusing matters with their complicated monetary and financial policies.

Contrary to these aggressive policies, expansion of the Islamic Republic's relations with Africa has always been linked with assistance devoid of any expansionist or colonialist desire.

In addition to having good relations with these countries in the political, economic, and cultural fields, the Islamic Republic of Iran has always supported them vis-a-vis the aggressions of world arrogance. This is particularly true now, at a time when the West continually creates numerous problems and difficulties for the people of Africa through its dependents on this continent and through its extensive support for them.

Tehran Comments on OPEC's 'Successful Agreement'

LD061305 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1054 GMT 6 Aug 86

[Unattributed commentary: "The Successful Conclusion of the OPEC Session"]

[Excerpts] Finally last night, after 9 days of prolonged discussions, the 78th session of OPEC ended with a successful agreement on reducing the production ceiling aimed at raising oil prices. Near the end of the session, which was going to end inconclusively like previous ones, the Islamic Republic of Iran offerred a proposal [words indistinct] and thus saved OPEC from a fatal deadlock. [passage omitted]

Reaction to the successful agreement by OPEC oil ministers to cut production has been extremely extensive in the world news media. Most of them described the agreement as a positive development and as a turning point. The first reaction in the oil markets appeared in an increase in the price of North Sea oil and that of West Texas middle crude. Meanwhile, a number of non-OPEC oil exporting countries, welcoming the organization's decision, announced they would be prepared to cut production. It appears that, generally, the recent OPEC decisions have been welcomed by all oil-producing countries, probably leading to a positive impact on the oil market. All the same, one has to focus attention on a number of important points.

First, is that the plan approved by OPEC is scheduled to come into effect next month, leaving OPEC's production until then at its present level of 20 million barrels per day. OPEC mass production at its present level will enable the West and oil companies to boost their stock and thus prevent demand from outstripping supply in winter. Thus, OPEC will be able to raise prices before the end of the year only if it can continue the plan on reduction of the production ceiling for at least 4 months. In implementing this plan, OPEC will, of course, face its usual problem, namely the members violating their quotas. In order to raise the oil prices to between $17 and $19 a barrel by the end of the year, OPEC members, particularly its progressive members, should bear in mind that they should not be satisfied with that level of prices. In the face of the West's massive economic onslaught on the Third World countries, namely the oil price reduction plot, one must pursue the objective of raising the prices to the level of $28 a barrel. This can only be achieved if there is a further cut in production.

As they have already stated in their interviews, there are certain known elements within OPEC who are trying to stabilize oil prices at the $20-dollar a barrel level for several years to come. At the same time, several major questions arise regarding the recent OPEC decision. What factors led to the reactionary section of OPEC to agree suddenly to a cut in the level of production? Bearing in mind that Yamani has stated that he would continue the policy of increasing his share of the oil market, is that country's agreement at the recent session a kind of retreat by Saudi Arabia from its previous positions? Finally, can one believe that Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have come to agree with the progressive wing of OPEC about raising oil prices? At any rate, time and future developments in the oil market will provide clear answers to these questions.

Raising these questions, however, does not negate OPEC's recent success. The organization's recent move should be regarded as a first step toward a great movement. One should hope that the organization, by measures of that kind, will be able to raise the prices to the level before the crisis. This is contingent upon treachery not continuing within OPEC.

2d Military Training Course for Officials Begins

LD061509 Tehran IRNA in English 1503 GMT 6 Aug 86

[Text] Tehran, Aug 6, IRNA — The second military training course for Iranian high ranking officials opened at a garrison here Wednesday.

Deputies of Prime Minister Musavi as well as other ranking officials from various government organizations are taking the course.

Head of Basij (Mobilization) Unit of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps Hojjat ol-Eslam Rahmani told the trainees that the global arrogance had imposed the war on Iran to block the spread of the Islamic Revolution and finally overthrow the Islamic Republic.

Fortunately, Rahmani said, the acts of self-sacrifice and efforts of Iranian Muslim combatants have served to thwart all plots.

The first military training course for officials began nearly two months ago following a call by Imam Khomeyni for nation-wide mobilization.